

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) An ink follower ~~characterized by~~ containing a non-volatile or slightly volatile organic solvent and a non-styrene base thermoplastic elastomer which is soluble or swollen in the organic solvent and showing viscoelasticity which is predominant in elasticity response, wherein a value of an oil separation degree test (60°C, 24 hours) according to JIS K 2220-5.7-1993 for the above ink follower is 0.2 to 15%.
2. (Currently Amended) The ink follower as described in claim 1, wherein the non-styrene base thermoplastic elastomer ~~described above~~ is at least one selected from the group consisting of a vinyl chloride base thermoplastic elastomer, an olefin base thermoplastic elastomer, a polyamide base thermoplastic elastomer, a polyester base thermoplastic elastomer and a polyurethane base thermoplastic elastomer.
3. (Canceled)